REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in the application. Claims 1-11, 18 stand rejected. Claims 12-17, 19, 20 were objected to.

Double Patenting

Claims 1-11, 18 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-14 of U.S. Patent 6,714,599.

Applicants file a terminal disclaimer with this response to overcome this rejection. Therefore, claims 1-11, 18 are in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 12-17, 19, 20 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and intervening claims.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. Applicants are not amending claims 12-17, 19, 20 because, with the filing of the terminal disclaimer, the base claim and intervening claims are in condition for allowance.

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PATENT

REQUEST FOR ALLOWANCE

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that all pending claims in the application are patentable. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application are earnestly solicited. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: December 22, 2004

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